

VZCZCXYZ0002  
PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHTU #0137 0531700  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 221700Z FEB 10  
FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7328

UNCLAS TUNIS 000137

SENSITIVE  
SIPDIS

FOR OES/S NANCY CARTER-FOSTER, ALSO FOR NEA/MAG

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [ECON](#) [SOCI](#) [TS](#)  
SUBJECT: TUNISIA INCREASES FINES FOR DISTRACTED DRIVING

REF: A. TUNIS 73  
[1](#)B. STATE 6703

Sensitive but unclassified. Please protect accordingly.

[1](#)1. (SBU) On February 19, Tunisian media reported that the Ministry of Interior had increased auto traffic fines for moving violations, including for speeding, driving without a safety belt, and using cell phones while driving. The fine for using a phone while driving increased from TD 20 (USD 14.32) to TD 60 (USD 42.98).

[1](#)2. (SBU) Comment: While we do not believe this step was taken in response to our January 25 demarche (reftels - we have yet to receive an official reply), the increased fines clearly indicate that the GOT is also concerned about the dangers of distracted driving and the toll it is taking on the public's health and safety. End comment.

GRAY